

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CELEBRATE THE LIFESAVING WORK OF ANIMAL SHELTERS WITH THE LOUDOUN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER AND THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

November 2 – Waterford, VA— In recognition of **National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week**, November 1-7, 2009, The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) is partnering with the Loudoun County Department of Animal Care & Control to ask the citizens of Loudoun County to take a closer look at the valuable role their animal shelter plays in enhancing the quality of life in their community.

"Loudoun County Animal Care & Control is proud to serve Loudoun County by providing our many services and programs," says Director Thomas Koenig. "But we can't do it without the support of our community's residents."

Animal shelters offer many services to assist animals and people alike: controlling dogs running at large, rescuing injured animals, returning lost pets to their owners, and adopting animals into new, loving homes. They also offer the personal guidance of their staff members to assist the public with animal-related issues and concerns, from dealing with wildlife to helping with pet-behavior questions.

There are many ways to support the Loudoun County Animal Shelter and other local animal shelters by:

- ➤ Spreading the word about the importance of responsible pet ownership, including spaying and neutering pets.
- ➤ Volunteering time at the shelter or at one of the shelter's special events.
- ➤ Reporting animal cruelty and neglect.
- ➤ Choosing to adopt your next pet from among the many animals being cared for at the Loudoun County Animal Shelter. They have plenty of animals just waiting for a home like yours.

"We invite everyone to take this opportunity to stop by the Loudoun County Animal Shelter this week, visit the animals, and find out what you can do to help animals in need. Your involvement will go a long way toward helping the animals," says Koenig.

The Loudoun County Animal Shelter is located at 39820 Charles Town Pike, Waterford, VA 20197. Department information can be found online at <a href="https://www.loudoun.gov/animals">www.loudoun.gov/animals</a> or at www.twitter.com/loudounanimals.